

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:119
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2007
MISSING FILES FROM CUSTOMS COMMISSIONERATES
Deora Shri Milind Murl

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether sensitive files relating to cases of duty misappropriation involving hundreds of importers in the metropolitan cities as Mumbai and Kolkata have gone missing from customs commissionerates as reported in the Times of India dated May 24,2007;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) action taken in the matter;
- (d) the period to which these files pertain to; and
- (e) the measures the Government proposes to take to ensure that such incidents do not recur in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

- (a) & (b) Yes Sir, Report Number 7 of 2007 (Indirect Taxes) of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, in para 2.6.2 indicates that in four Commissionerates, 165 case files were missing relating to demands involving duty of Rs.26.48 crore, apart from interest and penalty of Rs.89.81 lakh.
- (c) Director General of Inspection had conducted special inspection of the Commissionerates and suggested measures for expeditious adjudication of cases ,and for tracing or reconstructing the files.
- (d) The said Report of Comptroller and Auditor General of India indicates the period for illustrative cases as between 1997 and 2002.
- (e) Government propose to take appropriate action on the remedial measures & special inspection conducted by Director General of Inspection in this regard.